THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) This would be so if the dividend percentages are constant, but the amounts may not decline or could even increase if the dividend percentages go up due to higher profits.

(b) An amount of Rs. 4800 crores is estimated to be raised from disinvestment during 1997-98. The estimated revenue loss to the Govt. due to decline in dividend which the PSUs pay cannot be quantified as it depends on a number of variable factors.

Discriminating Treatment against Women Directors

3891. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in some of the companies women have been holding board level appointments as Director or Managing Director/ C&MD; and

(b) the details of such public sector companies existing under the administrative jurisdiction of his Ministry as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The post of Director (Personnel) in Bharat Aluminium Company Limited is presently held by a woman.

गुजरात में खनिज उद्योगों की उत्पादन क्षमता

3892. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गुजरात में खनिज उद्योगों की उत्पादन क्षमता का अद्यतन ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या ये खनिज उद्योग अपनी संस्थापित क्षमता के अमूल्य उत्पादन कर रहे हैं;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) उन खनिज उद्योगों का विवरण क्या है, जिन्होंने उत्पादन क्षमता में वृद्धि करने के लिए अनुमति मांगी थी; और

(ङ) आज तक ऐसे प्रत्येक अनुरोध पर क्या कार्रवाई की गई है?

इस्पात मंत्री तथा खान मंत्री (श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद बैश्य): (क) से (ङ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Gold Mines in Bhandara district of Maharashtra

3893. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Gold Mines had been identified in Bhandara District of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are reluctant to explore the possibilities of gold in Bhandara District; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof alongwith the difficulties being faced in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) No gold mine had yet been identified in Bhandara District of Maharashtra.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has undertaken investigation for gold in parts of Nagpur-Bhandara region in the following areas:— (i) Sakolia fold belt (ii) Pular — Parsori Mokabardi — Khapri — Tutanbari areas and (iii) Garawna — Madgi — Nerla and Chandori—Lakhuri areas.

(d) Question does not arise.

Revision of Royalty rates on Minerals

3894. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the factors and circumstances which prompted the Central Government to raise royalty rates of a host of minerals recently: and

(b) the impact thereof in terms of annual amount paid to the states on these minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) As per provisions of Section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957, the Central Government is empowered to enhance